

9-10-1913

Letter from Alice Stone Blackwell, Chilmark, Massachusetts, to Anne Whitney, Shelburne, New Hampshire, 1913 September 10

Alice Stone Blackwell

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difficult to help her than it
need be if she were more
like other people. Yet I can
hardly wish that she were.

She worries about
your health, too. Some
little time ago - two or three
months, I should say -
she wrote me that she
should come back if
she were not afraid
that she would fall ill
on your hands and
would be more of a
care than a comfort to
you. She said this in
connection with your health;
for her own sake she
would prefer to stay in
England. She wants ~~to~~ to

Chilmark, Mass.

Sept. 10, 1913

Dear Miss Whitney:

I too am anxious about
Mrs. Dargan. It is a good
while since I have had any
word direct from ~~her~~^{her},
~~Dargan~~, and her words are
very brief. I think she
tries not to let us worry
about her health. It was
only through you that I
learned of her having
malaria at all; she had
not mentioned it to me.
It is an unlucky complica-
tion. I wonder how in the
world she caught it! It is
not likely to prove fatal,
but it ~~may~~ may pull down

her strength, for some time to come. If she is able to go from place to place, she cannot be really disabled; in that case she would have to stay in one spot & go to bed. But she may be pretty miserable without being actually laid up. She ought to tell us. She doesn't seem to realize that suspense may be worse than certainty. I think I shall write & urge her strongly to say just how she is.

I gather from your letter that she has expressed herself as unwilling to have you send her

money. She had forbidden me to. ~~The~~ money I sent her just before I went to the hospital was sent in the teeth of her positive declaration that she would not take it. Yet she did take it. She wrote ^{afterwards} me, that she should not use it unless she was forced to do so, but she acknowledged that it was a comfort to have it on hand as a possible recourse in case of need. She is so sensitive and has so morbidly delicate a sense of honor that it is sometimes more

get "local color" for an English
Play that she has in view;
and also she really thinks
that her chances of recovering
her health are better abroad
than they would be in America.
As faith counts for some-
thing in matters of health,
I dare say her belief that
foreign travel is good for
her has helped it to do
her good. But evidently
it has not done her
good enough.

Perhaps I ought not
to have repeated to you her
remark that she was so
concerned ^{about} ~~for~~ your health
that she should come to
you if she were not afraid
her return would be followed

by a break-down and illness, which would make her a trouble to you instead of a help. After that, she got to feel a good deal better; but how she is now I do not know, as it is some time since I have heard from her.

I do not think we ought to be too anxious about her, however. Since she can travel about, she must have some strength.

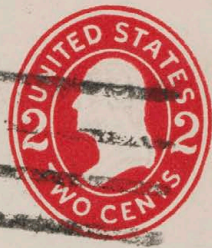
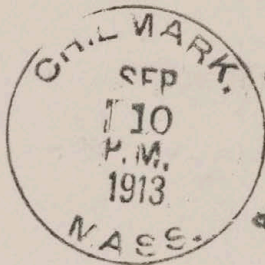
I am really more concerned about your health than hers. Appendicitis is a perfect nuisance, to put it mildly. I know by experience, and ~~and~~ therefore can sympathize.

My own health seems to be pretty well re-established. Yesterday I climbed the highest hill in this neighborhood - the first time in two years - and feel none the worse for it.

I do hope that you and your nephew will be able

to devise some means to make Mr. Dargan accept adequate help. I write from today (Sept. 17) I expect to come home. When are you planning to return? Always yours affectionately
Alice Brown

Blackburn



Miss Anne Whitney
Shelburne
New Hampshire.